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**TAKING THE FLOODS HAVE TAKEN.**

A correspondent of the Register who dates his communication "Fourth District," and signs himself "Another Farmer," opens in this way a vigorous protest against the reassessment inquiry: "The assessor is once more busily at work, and in some instances listing property never before listed, comprising much property never before listed to stock during a winter almost unprecedented for its severity or swept away by a destructive flood." This, indeed, is the refinement of executive humor—taxing those things heretofore exempted, and still by law exempt, which have been engulfed by the flood and swept on to the sea.

If the tax collector were asked to locate the lost property before he demands the tax on it, the joke would be on him. But not every farmer is able to fight the tax collector, even if he had the disposition; and where the assessor feels that the State Administration is above his own oath and the law, the money must be paid. Therefore, besides being excessively funny this order is barbarously severe. Between the Democratic State Administration and the flood the inundated farmers of West Virginia are "between the devil and the deep sea." Autocratic power could not go farther; but this is supposed to be a constitutional government; each State is entitled to a republican form of government; and there is a way—and but one way—to declare a statute unconstitutional.

The common people understand all this as well as any lawyer. They know that no law can be declared unconstitutional by a Governor; and they know that if he can upset one law for party convenience or to serve any other purpose, he can upset all the laws, and he can as well do it in the lump as to do it in piecemeal. It is the overthrow of a fundamental principle of government of law which presents this remarkable executive action in its most menacing and dangerous light.

If a party caucus can take the place of the Supreme Court of Appeals, if the Governor is bold enough to accept the advice of the caucus in place of a decision of the highest court in the State, and if from him down all the taxing machinery in the State is to work in pursuance of the caucus, then we have King Caesar ruling in West Virginia as no sovereign of Europe, except perhaps the Czar of Russia, would dare to rule.

This is what has been done and is being done in West Virginia, and if the people condone it at the polls this year, what have they to expect next year, and for all time to come?

**President Arthur and the Nomination.**  
Perhaps President Arthur has made some mistakes, but they are neither many nor great, and he has done as well to the end of the impartial historian will say that his administration was characterized by dignity, respect for the laws, a sincere effort to punish wrong-doers, and an earnest desire to remove from his party all trace of faction.

It will also be said that President Arthur was a clean administration, free from scandal. In short it will be said that Chester A. Arthur, coming to his office under circumstances peculiarly trying, made a good President. All this is in his favor as a candidate for re-election, and it could be urged with great force in his behalf if he were to be chosen to lead the ticket this year.

After all, the question is, could he be elected?—a question of more practical importance than the deserts of other candidates or his own merits. So states a politician as ex-Governor Foster has said publicly that President Arthur could not carry the Republican State of Ohio, with its twenty-three electoral votes. Equally close observers in the President's own State declare with emphasis that he could not carry that State with its thirty-six electoral votes.

New York he is not the man the party is looking for.

**BREAKFAST HUGGET.**

Washington territory women will have to pay a poll-tax.

A Reading, Pa., taxidermist has a collection of 75,000 birds, and is now preparing Orange, peach, and plum trees are blossoming around Ocala, Fla.

New York City pays annually \$7,200,000 for pure milk and \$1,200,000 for examined and water.

The prison wardens of New York City are agitating the propriety of charging prison visitors a fee.

The boys in the neighborhood of Joppat, Mo., contain millions of tons of the best quality of peat, for fuel.

A Springfield, Mass., florist found a nest of young mice living at the bottom of a flower pot in which a poisonous plant had not been flourishing.

Yonkers, N. Y., has some plucky girls. Recently a girl, named William, came in a young man to attend a leap year dance in a neighboring town and then borrowed \$3 of him to pay the lively rig.

The legal heirs of the late Edward Lasker have consented to negotiations for the disposal of the valuable literary institution and other interesting personal possessions left by the German statesman.

A wedding party of thirty-five men, women, and children was crossing the river "Theine," in Hungary, about three weeks ago, when the ice suddenly broke under them, and the entire company, with one exception, was drowned.

The other night the doctor of Prof. Smith, of the Union school at Phelps, N. Y., was covered with a coat of tar and feathers. The professor had adopted a system of discipline a little more severe than his predecessor, which excited the pupils to the tar and feather scheme.

Sir Samuel Bakers tells *The Pall Mall Gazette* that the Sudan is the granary of the world. He has ridden through districts where the corn grew high enough to cover an elephant. "When this region," he says, "passes into civilized hands, it will be the richest on the whole continent."

The druggists of Buffalo, N. Y., have lately been in the bitterest kind of competition, and the price of most of the commodities pertaining to their line have been cut down to an unprecedented low figure. Recently they had a secret meeting and appointed a committee to prepare a treaty of peace.

Petrus speak of St. Jacob Oil, the great pain-cure, as a miracle.

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**MARDI GRAS AT NEW ORLEANS.**

Mr. Jefferson Davis Doing a Funny Trick with the Stars and Stripes A. C. Correspondent Washington Post.

"Yes, I was in New Orleans to see the Mardi Gras carnival," said the New Yorker, "and I was much impressed with a good deal that I saw. On the night of the carnival ball Jefferson Davis, a traitor of the late confederacy, occupied a box in the theatre. He was accompanied by the daughters of Gen. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and a number of other ladies. The box was draped with Confederate flags, flowers, and garlands, and at a point in the programme a magnificent floral sword was brought in. This was tastefully decorated with Confederate hunting, and attached to it was a card bearing the words: 'To the President. After being examined by many of those present the sword was handed into the box and presented to Mr. Davis.'"

"Now, as he was not the president of the festival, it looked a good deal like an ovation to him as the chief magistrate of the defunct confederacy."

"I guess if such a thing had occurred on the other side of the water, say in England, there would have been some Englishman eccentric enough to call this misapplication of the terms of treason. It may be all right for Mr. Davis to be dubbed president by those who supported him and the card came, but it seems to me that it would be likely to excite some reference to the fact that he was a traitor, and a misapplication of the terms of treason."

"A Remarkable Case." Dr. Hartman—Dear Sir: I am induced by a sense of duty to the suffering to make a brief statement of your remarkable cure of myself. I was a most miserable sufferer from the various annoying and distressing diseases of delicate persons, which caused me to be confined to my bed for a long time, being too weak to even bear my weight upon my feet. I was treated by the most reputable physicians in my city, each and all saying they could do nothing for me. I had given up all hopes of ever being well. In this condition I began to take your Perina, and I am most happy to say, in three months I was perfectly cured, and I can now do any amount of work or